



# NATIONAL EDUCATION DATA MODEL

## **New National Education Data Model Launched**

*Resource to Help Education Community Manage Important Data*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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March 3, 2010

PHOENIX—Bringing clarity to the collection and use of student information, the U.S. Department of Education today launched its National Education Data Model (NEDM), a valuable new resource that will guide stakeholders as they gather and manage data on students and schools, at the 23rd Annual Management Information Systems Conference.

NEDM is a P-20 data resource that provides a common framework and language for collecting, comparing, and using data to improve schools and answer important research and policy requirements.

"In education, the more information we have, the better we will be able meet the needs of our students," said Karen Cator, director of the Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology. "But being data-driven doesn't help us if our data systems don't communicate with each other. The National Data Education Model is an important tool that will assist in creating clearer communication around data and begin to give us a more accurate picture of our schools and students."

NEDM is an online tool that is available for free to anyone who collects, maintains, and uses student data sets, including state information technology staff, local education agency personnel, researchers, policymakers, vendors, and software developers. NEDM will help the education community understand the language around student data systems and give key decision makers the information they need to communicate with the public and meet multiple reporting requirements.

In the drive to improve student achievement, the use of student data has become invaluable. But answering critical questions about students and schools is difficult when states, districts, researchers and other stakeholders are all collecting and analyzing different information. This new resource will bring needed alignment to the collection of student data. Likewise, NEDM allows education agencies to more precisely communicate their data needs to software developers.

“The need for clear and reliable information on student performance is greater than ever, and the National Education Data Model will support state and local education agencies in collecting and analyzing data,” stated the Council of Chief State School Officers Executive Director Gene Wilhoit. “We are hopeful that with state input and guidance, this model will ultimately lead to enhanced student performance and communication of that performance to an interested nation.”

The best sources on student information systems were used in the development of NEDM, including the NCES Forum Data Model Task Force Recommendations, Data Quality Campaign’s 10 Essential Elements, the National Center for Education Statistics’ Handbooks, and the Schools Interoperability Framework.

View the official website at: <http://www.nces.ed.gov/forum/datamodel/index.aspx>. For up to date information on the model and to provide feedback - visit the NEDM working site at: [www.educationdatamodel.org](http://www.educationdatamodel.org).

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The National Education Data Model (NEDM) is a valuable, free resource that provides guidance and assistance to those in the education community to help understand data definitions, develop data systems and meet reporting requirements. NEDM is a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education and coordinated by the Council of Chief State School Officers to develop a catalogue of data used in education and common definitions among those data. In its current version, NEDM can be used by state and district education agency IT staff, vendors and others in the education community to assist in the identification of existing definitions to help build data systems.

The NEDM State Core Data Set provides standard data definitions, coding strategies, and maps to other standards for student, staff, course section, school, and other district data elements.

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